

## COCHRAN'S COMMENT

### G. O. P. ORGANS HEDGING.

Some of the rantankerous, rip-snorting G. O. P. organs are hedging. They're cooling off. Finding that coarse abuse of the president isn't popular, they're putting on the soft pedal. It makes an editor mad clear through when his readers won't obey editorial orders, but if he gets mad enough to make his readers mad, then he begins to get scared. He doesn't hanker much for the sensation of being run over by a landslide. Sometimes the worm will turn. Then the moulders of public opinion get moulded. The present situation reminds me of the story of the man who had a sick horse. When given a powder to give the horse the owner asked the veterinary how to make the horse take it. He was told to put the powder in a bean shooter, put one end of the shooter down the nag's throat and then blow. Afterward the veterinary asked the owner how it worked. "I put the powder in the beanshooter, all right," he said, "and I put the beanshooter in the horse's mouth. I got the other end in my mouth to blow, but the darned horse blew first."

That's what happened when the organs of Wall street started to blow Hughes down the public throat.

**DAD WORSHIP.** — Now they're trying to make a campaign issue of something they say Secretary of War Baker said about the continental army. What difference does it make whether he said it or not? What's it got to do with this campaign? Nothing. And I'd advise the sons, daughter, etc., of the Revolution and all other ancestor worshippers not to go too far back in hunting up the records of their dads. Soldiers of the revolution were just as human as we are, and didn't have to be angels in order to lick the British. Anyhow, living folks who try to travel on the reputation of dead an-

cestors generally haven't done anything themselves worth bragging about.

**HOYNE'S POLICY.** — I don't know whether Hoyne hurt himself or not by prosecuting Chief Healey before Judge Olson. I do know, however, that his action there was consistent with his previous policy. He began a long time ago to clean up the rottenness in the police department and worked his way up to the chief and his secretary. He knew all crooked coppers and all of the underworld they could control would be against him. His only appeal could be to the public. He didn't need warrants from Judge Olson. But he had a chance to show the public his hand — or enough of it to show that he wasn't bluffing and wasn't playing rotten politics. He knew, of course, that Judge Olson was a Republican; that John J. Healy was not only Olson's friend, but the attorney for the Chicago Publishers' association — the lawyer who defended the trust press gunmen when Hoyne prosecuted them. And he knew the chief was smart when he hired Healy. Hoyne knew it wasn't an easy position for Olson, who evidently has political ambition. And he did the right thing in taking all of his evidence before 24 grand jurors. They heard the evidence and indicted Chief Healey, Secretary Luthardt and Esig of the Sportsmen's club. Then he didn't need a warrant from Olson. The work was done. He had shown ALL of his evidence to 24 grand jurors and enough of it to one judge to show the public that he was doing something better than playing politics. It would be as fair to say that he was playing politics when he prosecuted thieving clairvoyants, burglars, firebugs, horse thieves, window smashers, auto thieves, tax dodgers and grafting detectives. If doing one's duty is playing politics, then what this town needs is more of the same.